

tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois) at 7 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 15, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 15, 2010 at 6:46 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 4851.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

MAKING IN ORDER CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4851, CONTINUING EXTENSION ACT OF 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 4851) to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order or question of consideration, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment; that the Senate amendment be considered as read; that the motion be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

CONTINUING EXTENSION ACT OF
2010

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I call up the bill (H.R. 4851) to provide a temporary extension of certain programs, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Continuing Extension Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Section 4007 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(A) by striking "April 5, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "June 2, 2010";

(B) in the heading for subsection (b)(2), by striking "APRIL 5, 2010" and inserting "JUNE 2, 2010"; and

(C) in subsection (b)(3), by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(2) Section 2002(e) of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in Public Law 111–5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 438), is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "April 5, 2010" and inserting "June 2, 2010";

(B) in the heading for paragraph (2), by striking "APRIL 5, 2010" and inserting "JUNE 2, 2010"; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking "October 5, 2010" and inserting "December 7, 2010".

(3) Section 2005 of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in Public Law 111–5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 444), is amended—

(A) by striking "April 5, 2010" each place it appears and inserting "June 2, 2010"; and

(B) in subsection (c), by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(4) Section 5 of the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–449; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended by striking "September 4, 2010" and inserting "November 6, 2010".

(b) FUNDING.—Section 4004(e)(1) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252; 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

"(E) the amendments made by section 2(a)(1) of the Continuing Extension Act of 2010; and".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–144).

SEC. 3. EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF PREMIUM ASSISTANCE FOR COBRA BENEFITS.

(a) EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a)(3)(A) of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5), as amended by section 3(a) of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–144), is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010".

(b) RULES RELATING TO 2010 EXTENSION.—Subsection (a) of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5), as amended by section 3(b) of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–144), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(18) RULES RELATED TO APRIL AND MAY 2010 EXTENSION.—In the case of an individual who, with regard to coverage described in paragraph (10)(B), experiences a qualifying event related to a termination of employment on or after April 1, 2010 and prior to the date of the enactment of this paragraph, rules similar to those in paragraphs (4)(A) and (7)(C) shall apply with respect to all continuation coverage, including State continuation coverage programs."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the provisions of section 3001 of division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

SEC. 4. INCREASE IN THE MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT UPDATE.

Paragraph (10) of section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 1011(a) of the

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–118) and as amended by section 5 of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–144), is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "April 1, 2010" and inserting "June 1, 2010".

SEC. 5. EHR CLARIFICATION.

(a) QUALIFICATION FOR CLINIC-BASED PHYSICIANS.—

(1) MEDICARE.—Section 1848(o)(1)(C)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(o)(1)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking "setting (whether inpatient or outpatient)" and inserting "inpatient or emergency room setting".

(2) MEDICAID.—Section 1903(t)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(t)(3)(D)) is amended by striking "setting (whether inpatient or outpatient)" and inserting "inpatient or emergency room setting".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enactment of the HITECH Act (included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5)).

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendments made by this section by program instruction or otherwise.

SEC. 6. EXTENSION OF USE OF 2009 POVERTY GUIDELINES.

Section 1012 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–118), as amended by section 7 of the Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–144), is amended by striking "March 31, 2010" and inserting "May 31, 2010".

SEC. 7. EXTENSION OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 129 of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (Public Law 111–68), as amended by section 8 of Public Law 111–144, is amended by striking "by substituting" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "by substituting May 31, 2010, for the date specified in each such section."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be considered to have taken effect on February 28, 2010.

SEC. 8. COMPENSATION AND RATIFICATION OF AUTHORITY RELATED TO LAPSE IN HIGHWAY PROGRAMS.

(a) COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Any Federal employees furloughed as a result of the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund after 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2010, through March 2, 2010, shall be compensated for the period of that lapse at their standard rates of compensation, as determined under policies established by the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) RATIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL ACTIONS.—All actions taken by Federal employees, contractors, and grantees for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of Government operations, services, and activities to protect life and property and to bring about orderly termination of Government functions during the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund after 11:59 p.m. on February 28, 2010, through March 2, 2010, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (division B of Public Law 111–68).

(c) FUNDING.—Funds used by the Secretary to compensate employees described in subsection (a) shall be derived from funds previously authorized out of the Highway Trust Fund and made available or limited to the Department of Transportation by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–117) and shall be subject to the obligation limitations established in such Act.

(d) EXPENDITURES FROM HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—To permit expenditures from the Highway Trust Fund to effectuate the purposes of

this section, this section shall be deemed to be a section of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010 (division B of Public Law 111-68), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the last amendment to such Resolution.

SEC. 9. SATELLITE TELEVISION EXTENSION.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 119 OF TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)(E), by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”; and

(B) in subsection (e), by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”.

(2) TERMINATION OF LICENSE.—Section 1003(a)(2)(A) of Public Law 111-118 is amended by striking “April 30, 2010”, and inserting “May 31, 2010”.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—Section 325(b) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 325(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking “May 1, 2010” each place it appears in clauses (ii) and (iii) and inserting “June 1, 2010”.

SEC. 10. EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

(a) APPROPRIATION.—There is appropriated, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$80,000,000, for an additional amount for “Small Business Administration—Business Loans Program Account”, to remain available until expended, for the cost of fee reductions and eliminations under section 501 of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 151) and loan guarantees under section 502 of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 152), as amended by this section: Provided, That such costs shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(b) EXTENSION OF SUNSET DATE.—Section 502(f) of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 153) is amended by striking “April 30, 2010” and inserting “May 31, 2010”.

SEC. 11. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING A VALUE ADDED TAX.

It is the sense of the Senate that the Value Added Tax is a massive tax increase that will cripple families on fixed income and only further push back America’s economic recovery and the Senate opposes a Value Added Tax.

SEC. 12. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

(b) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL ENFORCEMENT.—This Act, with the exception of section 4, is designated as an emergency for purposes of pay-as-you-go principles. In the Senate, this Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 403(a) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

(c) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION FOR STATUTORY PAYGO.—This Act, with the exception of section 4, is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-139; 2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Levin moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I now yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, actually, this issue can be stated very succinctly, very briefly and, I think, very compellingly. We now have 6½ million unemployed workers who have been looking for a new job for over 6 months. That’s twice the number of long-term unemployed compared to any other time on record before this recession. I repeat, twice the number of long-term unemployed compared to any other time on record before this recession.

Furthermore, under both Democrats and Republicans, we have routinely considered extended unemployment benefits emergency spending, and we’ve passed extensions before in this House by voice vote. And yet, in the other body, Republicans blocked assistance to these jobless workers and to their families. They claimed their opposition was rooted in concern about the deficit.

Well, just briefly saying what that’s all about, in the past, those who now raise this issue have presided over increases in the deficit, paying for tax cuts, paying for the Iraq war, paying for other programs, passing them without paying for them at all.

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So, in a word, we should now rise together and pass this bill. The unemployed people of this country are waiting. Those looking for work when there are no jobs available are waiting for action by this House. At long last, the Senate has acted, and I’m hopeful that we’ll be able to reach beyond partisan divide, beyond partisan rhetoric and pass this bill with a strong, strong bipartisan vote.

The unemployed people of this country deserve it. They’re looking to this House. And those who talk about balancing budgets who have not balanced them in the past should not be now trying to do so on the backs of hundreds of thousands of unemployed in our beloved country.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself so much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support American workers and families, and that is why I must oppose the legislation before us that would heap another \$18 billion onto the dangerous deficits this Congress has already amassed and that American workers will ultimately be made to pay for in the coming years. On this Tax Day, as an overburdened Nation staggering under dangerous deficits, we need to send this bill back to the drawing board and return with legislation that is paid for that will not create more debt, that will help create more jobs instead of economic uncertainty and, ultimately, more job losses.

The legislation before us would extend for another 2 months special Federal spending programs that today allow unemployed workers to collect up to 99 weeks of benefits in most States. That is nearly 2 years of unemployment checks today which are by far an all-time U.S. record. That compares with a total of up to 26 weeks of benefits payable in almost all States during normal times.

We all want to help unemployed workers who are frustrated by a White House who has taken their eye off the economic ball. They’re frustrated by this Congress that has sought an extreme agenda rather than focusing on jobs. But it is impossible to ignore the fact that those extra 73 weeks of Federal benefits paid today, a full 17 months courtesy of Federal taxpayers, come at an enormous price.

In all, this bill would add \$18 billion—that is more than the size of the entire NASA budget—add that to this year’s trillion dollar deficit, including \$13 billion more for the unemployment benefits it would extend. That is on top of the approximately \$100 billion spent so far on these programs; and, if extended for the remainder of this year as we expect, another \$50 billion more would be added to the national debt.

None of this has or will be paid for. In fact, the Federal unemployment account has long since been bankrupted; yet we continue to spend, and now are being bailed out with general revenues. And who will bail out general revenues when they run out? Taxpayers, through more taxes and more general revenues the government extracts from them.

So far in the past year and 2 months since the President has been in office, taxpayers are paying \$2,100 more per individual because of \$670 billion in new tax increases. And if President Obama’s budget is approved by the Democratic Congress, we will heap almost \$3 trillion more on American taxpayers. And what’s sad, again, is that we continue to heap debt without any opportunity, without any promise that is kept to pay for them.

When our Democrat friends took office, they promised they would pay for the wars, pay for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, but not a dime yet. They

promised they would balance the budget. Today we see trillion dollar deficits as far as the eye can see. They enacted PAYGO and said we're going to pay for all new spending, but as this bill today shows, they've done nothing of that and, in fact, have invented extravagant loopholes, declared anything an emergency simply as an excuse to continue spending. And, of course, they promised to curb earmarks. In fact, eliminating earmarks could nearly pay for this bill, but they've not kept that promise either.

Mr. Speaker, we can do better than this. What unemployed workers really want are jobs and paychecks, not almost 2 years of unemployment checks and more massive debt for our country. Unfortunately, jobs are something Democrats in this Congress have been totally incapable of delivering.

Instead of creating 3.7 million jobs as promised, their stimulus bill was followed by 3 million more job losses. Instead of holding unemployment under 8 percent as promised, it soared to nearly 10 percent and remains close to that today.

Sixteen million Americans are unemployed, including record numbers for over a year. In fact, the White House promised, if you passed the stimulus, 90 percent of the new jobs we create would be in the private sector. The opposite is true. The private sector has lost 3.7 million jobs, but government jobs have been created—almost 300,000. So the people who are getting these unemployment benefits are the ones whose promises have not been kept by this White House and this Democrat Congress.

We need to start over and actually start paying for new spending, starting with this bill. The only way to do that is to defeat this bill and bring it back in a paid-for fashion.

But beyond that, Mr. Speaker, we also need to do the things that really help create jobs for workers. We can start by stopping frightening the job creators; businesses who are delaying important rehiring decisions, investment decisions, frightened by all of the new taxes proposed in Congress, the new health care mandates, the rising energy taxes, the talk of new regulations. We have to stop frightening consumers who know that, ultimately, they'll be relied on to pay this terrible debt.

We need to reward innovation and small business job creation through lower taxes and support for innovation, and we need to pursue free trade agreements that find new customers for American workers and American companies. That is why, Mr. Speaker, we must send this bill back and make it paid for, and stop punishing American workers and families.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield myself 30 seconds.

Once again, the party of "no" has spoken. Every jobs bill that has come before us they have voted "no." When the President came to power, we were

losing 779,000 jobs a month. The last month we gained 162,000 jobs. The people of this country deserve more than a "no," another "no" from the party of "no."

I now yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from the State of Washington who is chairman of the subcommittee, Mr. McDERMOTT.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, my good friend from Texas, I couldn't have asked for a better setup man for a straight man because, I dare say, there are many Members at one time or another who had something to say hypocritical either on the floor or on the campaign trail. But I don't ever recall the blatant hypocrisy behind the cornerstone of an argument to deny benefits to hundreds of thousands of people who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own, that is, until the recent debate about extending unemployment benefits.

The Senate Republicans, and now my House Republican colleagues, have cut off unemployment benefits for hundreds of thousands of jobless Americans for the last 2 weeks because they say they're upset about the budget deficit. Isn't that something. They claim we can't afford to help the unemployed unless the cost of these benefits is offset, even though Congress has routinely considered such benefits to be emergency spending which doesn't require offsets.

Maybe my mind is failing, I don't know, but I don't remember these concerns coming up from our Republican colleagues when there was discussion about the \$1 trillion cost of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, not a penny of which was offset. President Bush never asked for any sacrifice from the American people. He said, We can just go out and fight a war and it will be paid for sometime when I'm not here. I also don't recall any Republicans expressing concern about the nearly \$2 billion spent on two successive tax cuts that went mainly to the wealthy. That is why you will have to forgive me if I seem a little frustrated that Republicans have miraculously discovered fiscal responsibility. I don't know. They must have turned over a rock somewhere.

When they're talking about unemployment benefits, they suddenly worry about paying for it. A measly \$18 billion. President Bush put us \$3 trillion in debt, and now they're worrying about \$18 billion. They were happy to help their President turn the biggest surplus in our Nation's history into the biggest deficit in our Nation's history, but now when it comes to help the unemployed workers and their families, Senate Republicans say we just can't afford to do it. So they delayed and obstructed the bill for weeks until the Senate finally cleared the Republican filibuster earlier this evening.

We're here tonight to pass that bill to provide an extension through May for a number of programs that are expiring at the end of the month, includ-

ing Federal unemployment insurance. We're going to take another one of these votes in June.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. McDERMOTT. We will be back here on June 1 going through this same charade all over again. We will hear about the terrible budget deficits. But the people who are unemployed and can't buy food to put it on the table, they're not listening to you people.

The benefits under this bill will be retroactive, so unemployed workers who were cut off during the last 2 weeks will receive compensation. That is the least we can do for those who have lost their job through no fault of their own.

Six weeks from now, as I say, we will be back to continue this again. We will be pushing for a much longer extension of Federal unemployment programs to ensure that jobless Americans are not continually held hostage every month to the Republicans and their hypocrisy.

I was recently reading an article about a man who was laid off. He had an MBA. He played by the rules, made a good living, but it was taking him many months to find work. He said, For someone that is unemployed right now, you need to turn off the news. It will affect the positive attitude you need to have. You've got to be positive, because it's not easy."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Americans can't stomach this Republican hypocrisy anymore. And I sincerely hope that when the unemployed go to vote in this election, they remember the attitude of the Republicans toward them when they were in need, because maybe then the Republicans will get the message.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I yield myself 30 seconds.

I would remind people the Democratic Congress handed President Obama a trillion dollar deficit, eight times larger than Republicans when we held this Congress. The stimulus bill alone was larger than the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. And, unfortunately, only 6 percent of Americans feel the stimulus has helped create jobs in America. What a terrible waste.

With that, I would yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Today is April 15, Tax Day, and across the country citizens concerned with the direction our Nation is headed are rallying together to send Washington, D.C., a message. Though I was unable to join the people at these rallies, it is my duty to be here in the House of Representatives today to share their message and to speak and to vote against this bill.

First, this bill is shortsighted because it increases the deficit by \$18 billion, a cost to be paid for by future

generations. This Congress has spent and borrowed its way into record deficits.

Second, the so-called doc fix in this bill is an example of Congress avoiding real solutions necessary to improve health care for Americans. The short-term doc fix included in this bill is hardly a fix when Kansas hospitals and doctors have to endure this wait-and-see game every few months while still working to care for folks and keep their doors open. We need a permanent solution to this ongoing problem so that doctors can regain a sense of stability and predictability in their practices.

And thirdly, despite its intention, this bill does little to address our country's persistent high unemployment rate. Rather than continuing to spend money we do not have, Congress needs to pursue a strategy of job creation. This legislation is yet another unfortunate example of "business as usual" in our Nation's capital; same old story from a Congress that needs to learn its lessons from the American people, a story told one more time on this Tax Day, April 15.

Mr. LEVIN. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I yield myself as much time as I may consume for closing remarks.

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Mr. Speaker, if the Democrat stimulus plan had worked as promised, we wouldn't be here tonight. If we had really created 3.7 million new jobs, as President Obama promised, as this Democrat Congress promised, these programs would have phased out already. Instead, we witness another 3 million Americans sitting home tonight without a job.

If the unemployment rate were 7.4 percent and falling as Democrats promised, these programs would be phased out, and we would be celebrating job creation. Instead, unemployment is near 10 percent and will remain at that level for more than a year. Consider that when the other side says we have to extend unemployment benefits to reduce unemployment, we have to extend unemployment to reduce unemployment. Consider that when the other side claims that Vice President BIDEN once said we have to spend money to keep from going bankrupt. We have to raise health care costs to reduce health care costs.

Well, we have done the stimulus and spent and spent and spent and added trillions of dollars to this dangerous American debt. Meanwhile, we are 6 million jobs short of where Democrats promised we would be. It hasn't worked. It's time to stop the madness. It's time to stop the spending. Defeat this bill and bring back legislation that will actually create jobs, not add to our Nation's horrible debt.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I close, quoting a woman who spoke to my of-

fice today from Eastpointe, Michigan. She was laid off from a large accounting firm, and she says, "I was there for 2½ years. The firm let me go because they had some clients who closed shop because of the economy the way it is. It was nothing I did. I received a raise every year I was there. I've been unemployed ever since. That was the end of May of last year, 2009.

"Without unemployment, we'd be in a lot of trouble. I'd probably lose my car."

Mr. Speaker, holding unemployed Americans, hundreds of thousands of them, like this woman, hostage to score what some think may be political points I think is reprehensible.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Amendment to H.R. 4851, the Continuing Extension Act, to extend a range of programs.

On March 17, the House passed H.R. 4851, emergency legislation that would extend a range of programs that unfortunately expired. These programs included: unemployment benefits; help with health insurance for the unemployed, COBRA; the highway bill; satellite TV; delay in the cut in Medicare physician payments; flood insurance; and small business loan guarantees. We passed this emergency legislation in the House, but Republican Senator JIM BUNNING single-handedly blocked passage of this emergency measure, despite the critical needs of millions of families across the United States during this economic downturn.

As a result, a 2-day shutdown of these programs that jeopardized unemployment benefits for more than 1 million Americans and furloughed thousands of highway and transit workers. This bill compensates Transportation Department employees who were furloughed during the lapse in the Federal highway, highway and motor carrier safety, and public transit programs. Unfortunately, Republican Senator COBURN has now put a hold on H.R. 4786, which passed the House by voice vote last week, to address this problem for transportation workers.

The following programs are now being extended:

Unemployment Insurance: Extends unemployment benefits, including the increased payouts and longer duration of benefits from the Recovery Act through May 5.

Help with Health Insurance for Unemployed Workers, COBRA: Extends eligibility for the COBRA health insurance 65 percent subsidy for people who have lost their jobs through April 30.

Medicare Physician Payments: Extends current Medicare payment rates for physicians, preventing a 21 percent payment reduction, through April 30, 2010.

Flood Insurance: Extends the National Flood Insurance Program authorization through April 30.

Satellite Television: Extends the compulsory copyright license used by satellite television providers through April 30, 2010.

Compensation for Furloughed Employees: Provides compensation for federal employees furloughed during March 1 and 2 as the result of the lapse in expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund.

Medicare Therapy Caps Exceptions: Extends exceptions process for beneficiary payment limits on outpatient therapy services through April 30, 2010.

Poverty Guidelines: Extends current provision maintaining 2009 poverty guidelines through April 30, 2010, to prevent a lowering of the poverty line due to deflation in 2009.

This bill is the right thing to do. We still need to do more to put jobs in the hands of Americans. Unemployment in the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown region climbed to 5.4 percent in October, according to a recent report from the Texas Workforce Commission. There were 152,300 people without jobs during the month out of a total civilian labor force of about 2.8 million, compared with 144,200 people, or 5.1 percent, unemployed out of a civilian labor force of 2.8 million in September, according to the TWC. The unemployment rate in October was up from 4 percent a year ago. Getting all Americans back to work is, and should be our number one priority.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join my colleagues in doing the right thing for the American people in these challenging economic times. We owe that to the people whom we are sent here to serve.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4851, the "Continuing Extension Act of 2010." Earlier today, the Senate passed this critically important measure, which will provide short term extensions to several lapsed programs, including extended unemployment benefits and COBRA health insurance subsidies. The bill also ensures that physicians who care for Medicare patients will not suffer a debilitating cut in their reimbursement rates, which could potentially cause them to cease providing care.

We pass these needed and humane extensions tonight to ease the pain being felt by our fellow citizens around the country. I sincerely hope this is the last time we are forced to cut off this social lifeline because of the dilatory tactics of Senate Republicans. Food, shelter, and health care are too important to be subjected to petty political battles. I encourage all my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendments to H.R. 4851, the Continuing Extension Act of 2010. As its title suggests, this bill continues a number of vital programs affecting people's health and economic wellbeing. It deserves strong bipartisan support. I'd like to highlight several key components.

On the economic front, the legislation will ensure that hundreds of thousands of workers can maintain their unemployment benefits by extending and fully funding both the Emergency Unemployment Compensation and Extended Benefits programs for an additional 2 months. It also continues the \$25 per week supplementary payment for all unemployment recipients.

With regard to health care, this legislation will continue the temporary COBRA premium assistance program through May 31 of this year. This program was created in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and provides a 65 percent COBRA premium subsidy for workers who have been involuntarily terminated. The subsidy is available for up to 15 months. This program has allowed workers who've lost their jobs during the recession to maintain their families' health insurance as they search for new employment. It is an important program and I am pleased to support this extension. I also look forward to pursuing legislation to extend this program through the end of the year.

The bill also protects Medicare for our senior citizens and people with disabilities by forestalling a 21 percent payment cut to Medicare physicians. Passage of this bill provides a reprieve until the end of May, but isn't a long term solution.

With regard to Medicare physician payments, the House passed legislation late last year that would have permanently solved our ongoing dilemma with the sustainable growth rate, SGR, physician payment formula in Medicare. Our legislation, H.R. 3961, would have created a new formula that emphasized primary care and encouraged physicians to join together in accountable care organizations to provide more efficient higher quality care.

I am committed to continuing to work with my colleagues in Congress, the Administration, and the physician community to eliminate the SGR and move to a revised payment formula that ensures that physicians are fairly compensated and enhances quality and efficiency in Medicare.

These programs are too important to let a few Republican Senators hold them hostage month by month. I urge my colleagues to vote yes to extend these vital programs now and to work with us on a bipartisan basis for longer term solution on them all.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, despite its obvious shortcomings.

On March 17, the House approved the prior version of this bill, which would have extended Federal unemployment, COBRA and related benefits, plus the Medicare "doc fix," through the month of April.

Everyone in this town knew those benefits and programs were poised to expire at the end of March if Congress failed to act. But because Senate Democrats refused to pay for a 1 month extension and House Democrats refused to pay for even a 1 week extension, hundreds of thousands have missed an unemployment benefit payment, among other painful effects.

Now that the Senate has finally acted, we are considering a bill to extend these programs, yet again. Only this time, the extension is not just for 1 month, but 2. Predictably, this will add twice as much to the already massive deficit—\$18 billion instead of \$9 billion.

Unfortunately, efforts in the Senate to add offsets, so that these important provisions do not add to the deficit, were defeated. And, disappointingly, as it has continued to do in recent months, the House is debating this bill today under procedures which do not even allow us to offer a paid-for alternative.

In the past, I have consistently voted for bills extending unemployment benefits. I will reluctantly vote for this bill today, because voting yes is the only way to continue these important benefits for laid off workers in my State, where the unemployment rate is a staggering 14 percent.

Simply put, we should not punish those workers for the failure of the Congress to find a way to pay for the extension of these benefits. Similarly, we shouldn't punish seniors, who risk losing access to doctors if we don't reverse the 21 percent cut in the physician fee schedule that took effect at the start of this month. We all knew this cut was coming, yet for the second time in as many months, the Democrats' failure to act allowed this cut to go into place.

But everyone should know this bill is far removed from what we really should be doing.

What we should really be doing is paying for the new spending we approved, instead of simply adding it onto our already overcharged national credit card.

In the longer run, we all know that unemployed workers and their families need something more than another round of extended unemployment benefits. Most of all they need jobs. And jobs are something this majority has been totally incapable of producing.

A little over a year ago, Democrats promised their trillion-dollar stimulus plan would create 3.7 million jobs. Yet that bill was followed by 3 million more job losses. Unemployment rose to 10 percent instead of the 8 percent peak the other side promised. And now 16 million Americans are unemployed, with millions out of work for over a year, both all-time records.

They deserve our help, but they also deserve a job and a country not sinking ever deeper into debt.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are generous. And they know that these continued unemployment benefits—especially in areas of the country where jobs are scarce—are important. But they also deserve a Congress that acts responsibly.

It is too late to add offsets to this bill, and I am not prepared to vote against it for that shortcoming, since it would further hurt many who are most in need of our help. But the next time we deal with this issue, Members need to have a real choice so that we can help workers without hurting future taxpayers by driving up the debt by tens of billions of dollars.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 289, noes 112, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 211]

AYES—289

Ackerman	Bright	Connolly (VA)
Aderholt	Brown, Corrine	Conyers
Adler (NJ)	Brown-Waite,	Costa
Altmire	Ginny	Costello
Andrews	Buchanan	Courtney
Arcuri	Burgess	Crenshaw
Baca	Butterfield	Crowley
Baird	Camp	Cuellar
Baldwin	Cao	Cummings
Barrow	Capps	Dahlkemper
Bean	Capuano	Davis (AL)
Becerra	Cardoza	Davis (CA)
Berkley	Carnahan	Davis (IL)
Berman	Carney	Davis (KY)
Biggert	Carson (IN)	Davis (TN)
Bilirakis	Cassidy	DeFazio
Bishop (GA)	Castle	DeGette
Bishop (NY)	Castor (FL)	Delahunt
Blumenauer	Chandler	DeLauro
Bocchieri	Childers	Dent
Bonner	Chu	Deutch
Boren	Clarke	Diaz-Balart, L.
Boswell	Clay	Diaz-Balart, M.
Boucher	Cleaver	Dicks
Brady (PA)	Clyburn	Dingell
Braleay (IA)	Cohen	Doggett

Donnelly (IN)	Levin	Reyes
Doyle	Lewis (GA)	Richardson
Driehaus	Lipinski	Rodriguez
Edwards (TX)	LoBiondo	Roe (TN)
Ehlers	Loebsock	Rogers (AL)
Ellison	Lofgren, Zoe	Rogers (MI)
Ellsworth	Lowe	Ros-Lehtinen
Engel	Lujan	Ross
Eshoo	Lynch	Rothman (NJ)
Etheridge	Maffei	Royal-Allard
Farr	Maloney	Rush
Fattah	Manzullo	Ryan (OH)
Filner	Markey (CO)	Salazar
Foster	Markey (MA)	Sanchez, Loretta
Frank (MA)	Marshall	Sarbans
Fudge	Matheson	Schakowsky
Garamendi	Matsui	Schauer
Gerlach	McCarthy (NY)	Schiff
Giffords	McCollum	Schock
Gordon (TN)	McDermott	Schrader
Grayson	McGovern	Schwartz
Green, Al	McHenry	Scott (GA)
Green, Gene	McIntyre	Scott (VA)
Griffith	McMahon	Serrano
Grijalva	McNerney	Sestak
Gutierrez	Meeks (NY)	Shea-Porter
Hall (NY)	Melancon	Sherman
Halvorson	Michaud	Shimkus
Hare	Miller (MI)	Shuler
Harman	Miller (NC)	Sires
Hastings (FL)	Miller, George	Skelton
Heinrich	Minnick	Slaughter
Heller	Mitchell	Smith (NJ)
Herseth Sandlin	Mollohan	Smith (WA)
Higgins	Moore (KS)	Snyder
Hill	Moore (WI)	Space
Himes	Moran (VA)	Spratt
Hinchee	Murphy (CT)	Stark
Hinojosa	Murphy (NY)	Stearns
Hirono	Murphy, Patrick	Stupak
Hodes	Murphy, Tim	Sutton
Holden	Nadler (NY)	Tanner
Holt	Napolitano	Taylor
Honda	Neal (MA)	Teague
Hoyer	Nye	Thompson (CA)
Inslee	Oberstar	Thompson (MS)
Israel	Obey	Tiberi
Jackson (IL)	Olver	Tierney
Johnson (GA)	Ortiz	Titus
Johnson (IL)	Owens	Tonko
Johnson, E. B.	Pallone	Tsongas
Jones	Pascrell	Turner
Kagen	Pastor (AZ)	Upton
Kanjorski	Paulsen	Van Hollen
Kaptur	Payne	Velázquez
Kennedy	Perlmutter	Visclosky
Kildee	Perriello	Walden
Kilpatrick (MI)	Peters	Walz
Kilroy	Peterson	Waters
Kind	Petri	Watson
Kirk	Pingree (ME)	Watt
Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Platts	Waxman
Kissell	Pollis (CO)	Weiner
Klein (FL)	Pomeroy	Welch
Kratovil	Posey	Whitfield
Kucinich	Price (NC)	Wilson (OH)
Langevin	Putnam	Woolsey
Larsen (WA)	Quigley	Wu
Larson (CT)	Rahall	Yarmuth
LaTourette	Rangel	Young (FL)
Lee (CA)	Reichert	

NOES—112

Akin	Cooper	Inglis
Alexander	Culberson	Issa
Austria	Dreier	Jenkins
Bachmann	Duncan	Johnson, Sam
Bachus	Emerson	Jordan (OH)
Bartlett	Fallin	King (IA)
Barton (TX)	Flake	King (NY)
Bishop (UT)	Fleming	Kingston
Blackburn	Forbes	Lamborn
Blunt	Fortenberry	Lance
Bono Mack	Fox	Latham
Boozman	Franks (AZ)	Latta
Boustany	Frelinghuysen	Lee (NY)
Brady (TX)	Garrett (NJ)	Lewis (CA)
Brown (GA)	Gingrey (GA)	Linder
Burton (IN)	Gohmert	Lucas
Buyer	Goodlatte	Lummis
Calvert	Granger	Lungren, Daniel
Campbell	Graves	E.
Cantor	Guthrie	Mack
Carter	Hall (TX)	Marchant
Chaffetz	Harper	McCarthy (CA)
Coble	Hastings (WA)	McCaul
Coffman (CO)	Hensarling	McClintock
Cole	Herger	McKeon
Conaway	Hunter	

McMorris	Rogers (KY)	Smith (NE)
Rodgers	Rohrabacher	Smith (TX)
Mica	Rooney	Souder
Miller, Gary	Roskam	Sullivan
Moran (KS)	Royce	Terry
Myrick	Ryan (WI)	Thompson (PA)
Nunes	Scalise	Thornberry
Olson	Schmidt	Westmoreland
Paul	Sensenbrenner	Wilson (SC)
Pitts	Sessions	Wittman
Poe (TX)	Shadegg	Wolf
Price (GA)	Shuster	
Rehberg	Simpson	

NOT VOTING—29

Barrett (SC)	Jackson Lee	Ruppersberger
Berry	(TX)	Sánchez, Linda
Bilbray	Kline (MN)	T.
Boehner	Kosmas	Speier
Boyd	Luetkemeyer	Tiahrt
Brown (SC)	McCotter	Towns
Capito	Meek (FL)	Wamp
Edwards (MD)	Miller (FL)	Wasserman
Galleghy	Neugebauer	Schultz
Gonzalez	Pence	Young (AK)
Hoekstra	Radanovich	

□ 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Florida changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOOR OF MEETING TOMORROW

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. tomorrow, and further, that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

**CONGRATULATING THE
PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS**

(Ms. SCHWARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, today, it is my unique honor to congratulate Barbara Laker and Wendy Ruderman from the Philadelphia Daily News, winners of the prestigious 2010 Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting. Their resourceful reporting exposed a rogue police narcotics squad, resulting in an FBI probe and in the review of hundreds of criminal cases tainted by the scandal.

Their investigative reporting series in the Philadelphia Daily News exposed allegations that a narcotics cop and his informant fabricated evidence so that the police could obtain warrants to enter homes and to make arrests. The series led to appropriate actions that better ensure the integrity and confidence that our law enforcement officers deserve.

Ms. Laker and Ms. Ruderman represent the finest tradition in the profession of journalism. Their commitment to journalistic principles, including the fulfillment of the role the press

can play in exposing serious public failings, has earned them this prestigious prize and the accompanying well-deserved recognition.

Ms. Laker and Ms. Ruderman have brought excellence to the Philadelphia Daily News and to the Greater Philadelphia area. I congratulate them on their achievement and on the recognition they have received for their journalistic excellence.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF FALLEN ARMY RANGER COR-
PORAL MICHAEL JANKIEWICZ**

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Corporal Michael Jankiewicz, a recently fallen Army Ranger. Only 23 years old, this young man was killed in Afghanistan on April 9 when his Osprey helicopter crashed in Zabul province, just about 200 miles southwest of Kabul.

Michael grew up in my district. After graduating from Ramsey High School in 2006, he pursued his childhood dream and enlisted in the U.S. Army. You know, his father recalled that, even at 3 years old, Michael was talking about becoming a U.S. soldier. While pursuing his dream, he became a true hero, serving two tours in Iraq and two additional tours in Afghanistan with the 75th Ranger Regiment stationed out of Fort Benning, Georgia.

As an active Army Ranger, he saw some of the most dangerous action, but when Michael talked about his service to his family, his father says he would typically just say, “I just can’t wait to get back to my platoon.”

This young corporal was part of our Nation’s premier light infantry force. Every day that he wore his uniform, he dedicated his best to this great country. He was among some of the best soldiers in the world because of the careful screening process and arduous training the Rangers must endure.

Michael is survived by his mother, Serena; by his father and stepmother, Anthony and Carmen; by his grandfather, Abraham Friedman; by his sister, Michelle; by his stepsister, Noemi Cagley; and by his stepbrother, Hector Emmanuelli.

His dedication to his country and to his fellow soldiers represents his tremendous sense of loyalty and selflessness. Corporal Michael Jankiewicz is a true American hero. His country will never forget him. He will never be forgotten by his friends, by his family, or by this country for whom he fought.

□ 2015

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the fol-

lowing Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ALTMIRE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ARIZONA IMMIGRATION BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the consequences of our failure to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

On Tuesday, lawmakers in Arizona passed new immigration enforcement legislation that allows local law enforcement officials to single out undocumented immigrants based solely upon a “reasonable belief” that they are undocumented and imprison them for up to 6 months. This bill will significantly undermine the efforts of many law enforcement agencies towards curbing racial profiling by police throughout the country and will increase crime by taking cops off their beats fighting crime and instead using them to enforce Federal immigration laws.

Arizona would force untrained State police officers to take the role of Federal immigration agents and somehow make the determination of whether the person is documented or not based upon their subjective belief or observations. It effectively mandates local police to engage in racial profiling and discrimination. This law would mandate the arrest of a person who can’t present documentation of legal status. We can imagine all sorts of abuses and unnecessary harassment that will result from such an ill-conceived law. When one goes to the grocery store or takes one’s kids to school, do we take a passport with us? I know I don’t.

The true culprit here, sadly, is the United States Congress, not Arizona. Because we have refused to take action, States are being pressured on all sides to act. States have haphazardly passed a patchwork of laws in an attempt to deal with the pressing issue of immigration. These local laws have unintended consequences which often lead to disastrous results, as we will surely see in Arizona.

The Arizona law is a symptom of our broken immigration system, and only Congress can truly solve the crisis. Immigration is fundamentally a Federal issue, and yet we here in Congress continue to fail in meeting our responsibility that’s allocated to this body and the Federal Government. Until we can pass comprehensive immigration reform, these misguided local laws will continue to be passed in vain attempts to address the issue at a local level,